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The invention also provides novel processes for the production of an amino acid by way of the amplification of amino acid biosynthetic pathway genes in a host cell chromosome and/or by increasing promoter strength. In a preferred embodiment, the invention provides processes to increase the production of L-lysine in *Corynebacterium glutamicum* by way of the amplification of L-lysine biosynthetic pathway genes in a host cell chromosome. The invention also provides novel isolated nucleic acid molecules for L-lysine biosynthetic pathway genes of *Corynebacterium glutamicum* such as a naturally occurring, feedback- sensitive form of aspartokinase (*ask*) resulting from a threonine to isoleucine mutation at amino acid residue 380 in the *ask* gene of ATCC 21529, aspartate-semialdehyde dehydrogenase (*asd*), dihydrodipicolinate synthase (*dapA*), dihydrodipicolinate reductase (*dapB*), diaminopimelate dehydrogenase (*ddh*), and diaminopimelate decarboxylase (*lysA*).
